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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 30, 2006

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Ski and snowboard competitors sought

HEIDELBERG, GE—Skiers and snowboarders from throughout Europe will vie for medals in the 2006 Jeep Ski and Snowboard U.S. Forces Championship at the Hausberg Ski Area in Garmisch March 11 and 12.

The Championship will feature competition in alpine ski slalom and giant slalom, and snowboard giant slalom events, in racer, professional and youth classifications. The event is open to all U.S. ID-cardholder military men and women, civilians and family members age six and up.

Entrants in the adult racer class will compete in active duty or civilian divisions, in men's or women's open (age 18-29), senior (age 30-39) or master's (age 40 and up.) Skiers earning local commander cup points for their unit must be entered in this class.

Youth class skiers age six to 17 will compete in boy's or girls minor (age six to nine), junior (age 10 to 12), and senior (age 13 to 17) categories. Youth skiers will race on the same course as the adults and must have the ability to control their speed and turns on the steep hills of 'blue' runs. Race organizers said that helmets are highly recommended for all youth skiers.

Professional class skiers are civilian ID-cardholders who are associated with providing ski or snowboard related services—such as instructor, trip guide, and ski patrol—on a paid, compensated or volunteer basis.

Active duty military with professional credentials may compete in the racer class.

There is no entry fee for participation in the racing events.

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SKI AND SNOWBOARD COMPETITORS SOUGHT

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Registration forms are available at Army Morale, Welfare and Recreation outdoor recreation centers or online at www.mwr-europe.com. Pre-registration ends March 8.

For more information, contact Wiesbaden Outdoor Recreation at DSN 377-5760 or go online to www.mwr-europe.com.

The 2006 Jeep Ski and Snowboard U.S. Forces Europe Championship is hosted by Installation Management Agency-Europe Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

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The U.S. Army Installation Management Agency, Europe (IMA-EURO) is one of seven regional offices created Oct. 1, 2002, as part of an Army-wide initiative to focus management of Army installations around the world under one organization. IMA- EURO is responsible for all facets of support for U.S. Army Soldiers and families in Europe from driver's licenses to child care to force protection. As the landlord for all U.S. Army facilities in Europe, IMA- EURO is responsible for infrastructure and continuing the Army's strong commitment to environmental protection. Its higher headquarters is located in Arlington, Va.

